

Recyclable MOUT

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Where there is a need, the U.S. Army finds a way. Soldiers deploying to Afghanistan and Iraq need valuable training, and they need it now.... Welcome to Braggdad.

Fort Bragg saw the opportunity to create a MOUT completely out of recycled materials to give the soldiers that training before they go overseas.

Bill Edwards/Installation Range Officer, Ft Bragg,

One of the main benefits from using recycled materials from the landfill, it allowed us to get the project off and going and completed within 90 days. If this had been a project if we had of gone through the planning system, the programming system to get funding for, a project of this nature probably would of taken about five or six years to get constructed.

Col. Al Aycock/Garrison Cmdr., Ft. Bragg;

It truly benefits the soldier immensely. Under the principle of "Train as you fight," we have to put our soldiers into situations into training that they'll see in combat. And by being able to use recycled materials to build an area, we saved a huge amount of money for the Army training. We've diverted material from the landfill and we provided a great training aid.

Offering scenarios, tailored for what a unit may see once they move into an area. This recyclable MOUT helps prepare you for everything from negotiating with the elders of a community to potential RPG fire.

Bill Edwards/Installation Range Officer, Ft Bragg

We basically just went to the Internet, took some pictures and some shots from Iraq and Afghanistan, blew them up, maintenance guys took a look at them and we said, we would like to produce something very similar to this for the “urban” portion of the convoy ambush range.

Over 50 C-Lan containers and more than 35,000 tons of crushed concrete were diverted from the landfill. Extending the life of that particular landfill, and saving the Army money.

Bill Edwards/Installation Range Officer, Ft Bragg

Ballpark figure...\$250,000 is what we would have had to pay to have constructed this from the ground up and using the recycled products, we have about \$4500 total in the project.

SFC Tyler Ekwel/Insurgent:

I think ideas like this are awesome. The military in general, historically has always had tons of stuff.... . Uses like this are good opportunity to show, not just the Army, but the military in general, the adaptability of materials like this, how you can use it, not for simply storage but you can use it for training purposes. And it's a great way to do it. It's a great way to do it.

Looking for a better way to do business in today's Army is just a way of life. By using recycled materials, Fort Bragg can not only run mean and green but offers vital training before their boots ever hit the sand.

From Freedom City, at Fort Bragg North Carolina, I'm Jesse McGill.